

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please AMEND claims 1, 9, 18, 24, 30 and 31 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
  - a network interface configured to communicate with nodes in a cluster;
  - a configuration subsystem operationally coupled to a remote management broker, wherein the remote management broker is configured to distribute information between the nodes in the cluster; and
  - a processor configured to
    - access the cluster from a single-point,
    - obtain information relating to at least two devices within the cluster,
    - present the information to a user,
    - determine network management operations to perform on the cluster,
    - apply a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster,
    - perform the determined network management operations, and
    - determine whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations were not applied correctly, the processor is configured to roll back to the most recent successful configuration.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to provide a command line interface that is configured to access the cluster.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to provide a graphical user interface that is configured to access the cluster.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the processor is further configured to aggregate data relating to the devices within the cluster.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the remote management broker further comprises:

a secure transport configured to transport messages;

a remote management broker server operationally coupled to the secure transport;  
and

a remote management broker client operationally coupled to the secure transport.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the remote management broker is further configured to collect attributes from the configuration subsystem.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein the messages include a header to authenticate the messages.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 7, wherein the header includes a message authentication code that acts as a shared secret within the cluster and a magic field that identifies one or more of the messages as a remote management broker message.

9. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:  
accessing a cluster from a single-point;  
obtaining attributes relating to at least two devices within the cluster;  
presenting the attributes to a user and receiving input from the user relating to the attributes;  
determining network management operations to perform on the cluster based on the received input;  
applying a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster;  
performing the determined network management operations on the cluster; and  
determining whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management

operations were not applied correctly, rolling back to ~~at the most recent~~ successful configuration.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the providing of cluster management from the single-point comprises providing cluster management from a selected one of a command line interface or a graphical user interface.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising: distributing information between the nodes in the cluster using a remote management broker.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the performing of the determined network management operations on the cluster further comprises distributing the network management operations to each of the devices.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising: determining whether the network management operations on the cluster were performed correctly, and when the network management operations were not performed correctly, rolling back to a successful configuration.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:  
utilizing a header that is configured to authenticate messages.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
applying a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing  
network management operations on the devices within the cluster during a predetermined  
time; and  
releasing the configuration lock after the network management operations are  
performed.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:  
aggregating data relating to the devices within the cluster on a single device within  
the cluster.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer  
readable storage medium, said computer program configured to control a processor to  
perform a process, the process comprising:  
accessing a cluster from a single-point;  
obtaining attributes relating to at least two devices within a cluster from a single-  
point;

presenting the attributes to a user and receiving input relating to the attributes from the user;

determining network management operations to perform on the cluster based on the received input;

applying a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster;

performing the determined network management operations on the cluster; and

determining whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations were not applied correctly, rolling back to ~~at the most recent~~ successful configuration.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 18, the process further comprising:

applying a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the devices within the cluster during a predetermined time.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 18, wherein the receiving of the input further comprises at least one of utilizing a command line interface or utilizing a graphical user interface.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 18, the process further comprising:

providing a header to help in authenticating messages.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 18, the process further comprising:

aggregating data relating to the devices within the cluster on a single device within the cluster.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

obtaining means for obtaining attributes relating to at least two devices within a cluster from a single-point;

providing means for providing the attributes to a user;

receiving means for receiving input relating to the attributes from the user;

determining means for determining network management operations to perform on the cluster based on the received input;

distributing means for distributing the network management operations to the devices within the cluster;

first applying means for applying a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster;

second applying means for applying the network management operations to the devices within the cluster; and

determining means for determining whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations on the cluster were not applied correctly, rolling back to the most recent successful configuration.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:

third applying means for applying a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the devices within the cluster during a predetermined time.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the message authentication code is calculated from contents of the message and from a shared secret value that is known to the devices within the cluster.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the header comprises a message authentication code that is calculated from contents of the message and from a shared secret value that is known to the devices within the cluster.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 22, wherein the header comprises a message authentication code that is calculated from contents of the message and from a shared secret value that is known to the devices within the cluster.

30. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

accessing means for accessing the cluster from a single-point;

obtaining means for obtaining attributes relating to at least two devices within the cluster;

presenting means for presenting the attributes to a user and receiving input from the user relating to the attributes;

operation determining means for determining network management operations to perform on the cluster based on the received input;

applying means for applying a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster;

performing means for performing the determined network management operations on the cluster; and

correction determining means for determining whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations were not applied correctly, rolling back to at the most recent successful configuration.

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

    a processor configured to

        access a cluster from a single-point,

        obtain attributes relating to at least two devices within the cluster,

        present the attributes to a user and receive input from the user relating to the attributes,

        determine network management operations to perform to the cluster,

        apply a configuration lock to prevent other applications from performing network management operations on the at least two devices within the cluster,

        perform the determined network management operations, and

        determine whether the network management operations on the cluster, including said at least two devices, were applied correctly, and when the network management operations were not applied correctly, the processor is configured to roll back to at the most recent successful configuration.

32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 31, further comprising:  
a command line interface that is configured to access the cluster.

33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 31, further comprising:  
a graphical user interface that is configured to access the cluster.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the processor is  
further configured to aggregate data relating to the devices within the cluster.